

# the Bullet

Volume 76, No. 15

Mary Washington College's student newspaper since 1922.

February 13, 2003

## FEATURES

**Professor Christopher Kilmartin performs Crime Against Nature—again.**

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## VIEWPOINTS

**Student argues that simply dressing up like a woman does not make a drag show.**

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## inside

### WELDING WOES:

Student says watching welding is dangerous.

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### DRAG THIS, MISSY:

Annual Drag Show occurs yet again.

See Page 8.

### TRY TRY AGAIN:

Bullet error makes us reprint a story. Oops!

See Page 12.

## weather



### TODAY:

Mostly sunny with a high of 39 and a low of 20.

### FRIDAY:

Mostly cloudy with a high of 42 and a low of 30.

### SATURDAY:

Rain/Snow with a high of 37 and a low of 31.

### SUNDAY:

Showers with a high of 42 and a low of 29.

## verbatim

"The timing I think is actually very good because with all this war talk with Eastern nations, it's nice to see Asian culture and that we're not so different after all."

Mary Corbin

## Disease, Chainsaws Kill Prominent Local Tree



Phil Griffith/Bullet

Burt "the Bucket Guy" cuts off the oak tree's branches. The tree was estimated to be between 50 to 200 years old.

By TERRY NORTON

Staff Writer

The oak tree outside the Lee Hall side entrance had come down on Tuesday and Wednesday due to disease. But students still might be able to visit its remains.

Stephen W. Fuller, professor of Biology, asked for a cross section of the trunk to see how old the tree is.

"I thought we could put it in botany lab all polished up with markers in the rings for different events took place," he said. "I've seen it done at other places. Once we get it and figure out what to do with it, it could be interesting."

The tree was next to Circle Drive, stood over 100 feet tall and suffered from various ailments. College officials said they worried that the large limbs could pose a hazard to pedestrians, vehicles and the building. Just before the end of the winter break, an oak on the other side of Lee Hall fell.

No one was injured, and no property was damaged.

Joni D. Wilson, director of Landscaping and Grounds, said the college had to remove the tree.

"Normally we don't remove trees while students are here, but this is a safety hazard," Wilson said.

Wilson estimated the tree at 50 years old.

"Without looking at the rings, there is no way to tell the age," she said. "But, I fear the core is hollow."

Jerry Neri, the owner of Neri's Tree and Trade and a certified arborist, estimated the tree to be over 200 years old. His company, one of three tree-cutting services the college uses, helped diagnose and then removed the tree.

Neri said the tree had three diseases, as well as a Carpenter Ant infestation.

Wilson's office took precautions to prevent injury to people and objects during the removal process. All college personnel and students were notified via email that removal

would take place Feb. 11 and 12. They roped the area off and had personnel from the company and school ensuring no one crossed the line.

Freshman Pam Medley was one of several people who stopped for a short time to watch the process.

"It's sad," she said.

Offices on that end of Lee Hall were well insulated from the noise of the saw and mulcher, and noise was only bad in the stairwells. No one was willing to comment about the situation.

Neri said that one person does much of the cutting of the tree.

"First Burt 'the Bucket Guy' uses his bucket to trim off branches up to 55 feet, the height of his bucket arm," Neri said. "After that he uses spikes and safety lanyards and climbs the tree. Limbs will be tied off and a block and tackle

see OAK, page 2



Worth Stokes/Bullet

Bunny Melzer, director of the Thurman Brisen Homeless Shelter.

## Students Form Coalition To Save Homeless Shelter

By CONOR REILLY

Staff Writer

The student chapter of the Save Our Shelter (SOS) coalition held a meeting in hopes of mobilizing public support and raising funds for the new location of the Thurman Brisen Homeless Shelter.

The possible site is located at 1900 Caroline St. near Old Mill Park. However there are some practical issues, as well as concern from neighboring communities, that may make this site unrealistic to build on.

The shelter may run in excess of their \$1.8 million budget because of these problems. The proposed location is in the historic district and rests on the Rappahannock flood plain.

"[The Save Our Shelter coalition] hopes to enlist the services of at least 50 students for a literature drop around the City of Fredericksburg," said council leader and senior *Bullet* photographer Juliette Gomez.

They hope to educate the people of the city by presenting to them a brochure entitled "Fact vs. Fear," containing information about the services they provide and answers to common myths about the homeless.

There are two structures presently in place at the possible site, both of which cannot be demolished because of their historical value. "We would have to build the shelter around those buildings," said Carole Morris, president of the board of

see SHELTER, page 2

## Filmmaker To Speak—Finally Ken Burns To Come To Forum

By CONOR REILLY

Staff Writer

On February 26, the Fredericksburg Forum will welcome acclaimed documentary film maker Ken Burns to a sold out visit. Originally scheduled for Dec. 3, 2002, Burns came down with a stomach virus and was unable to travel to Fredericksburg.

At the forum, Ken Burns will speak on what is called the "Trilogy," which is primarily about his films "The Civil War," "Baseball" and "Jazz," said Louise Ashby, the Executive Director of the Fredericksburg Forum.

In addition to speaking at the forum itself, he will also be teaching two classes in the Great Hall of the Woodard Campus Center at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. that day. College officials say these classes will be a more interactive and informal chance for students to ask questions of Burns.

"I tried to get him to pick a topic for the classes, but his promoter said he was very good in a question and answer format," Ashby said.



Photo Courtesy College Relations

Ken Burns.

Ken Burns charges \$25,000 for visits similar to that of the Fredericksburg Forum. The funding for his fee is strictly from ticket sales, which are \$20 to the public and \$10 for students.

Junior music major Suzanne McCloskey looks forward to his visit.

"Jazz" preserved a lot that is culturally significant. But more than that, it was a celebration of a truly unique and American music," she said.

Junior Steven Shifflett agreed.

"Ken Burns' documentaries seem to

see BURNS, page 2

## Police Beat

By PORTSIA SMITH  
Assistant News Editor



Feb. 1—Around 12:45 p.m., alcohol was found in a dorm room of an 18-year-old female in Virginia Hall. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Feb. 4—An anonymous source reported that a student in Jefferson Hall was in possession of a gun. Since it was an anonymous tip, Campus police were not allowed to obtain a search warrant. Instead, Residence Life performed an administrative search in the room. Around 2 p.m., a .22 caliber pistol, individual bags of marijuana, smoking devices, alcohol, and a large sum of cash were found in the room. The 19-year-old male that was responsible could not be arrested because it was not a police search, but he was referred to administration.

Feb. 5—Around 10:30 a.m., five male students in Bushnell Hall were found to be in possession of a small bag of marijuana and several smoking devices. All five students were referred to administration.

Feb. 7—At 11:09 p.m., a 20-year-old male student in Mason Hall was found to be in possession of alcohol. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Feb. 8—Around 12:35 a.m., a 19-year-old female student in Mason Hall was found to be in possession of alcohol. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Feb. 9—At 12:14 a.m., two females were observed walking along Sunken Road near Marshall Hall. One of the females was staggering while the other female was helping her walk. The 18-year-old female who was staggering was arrested for drunk in public and referred to administration. The other female was released.

Feb. 10—At 12:28 p.m., burnt popcorn on the fourth floor of Jefferson Hall set off a fire alarm and caused the entire building to evacuate.



Photo Courtesy 1957 Bailefield

Lee Hall, circa 1955. The big oak tree is in the background.

## Big Oak Tree Gets Axed

▲ OAK, page 1

rigged so that he can saw off the upper branches and lower them safely to the ground."

Once the tree is limbed, the company began cutting the trunk in sections. They used a mulcher to chomp up the smaller limbs and bits of wood.

Cost will be over \$3,000 and will come out of Landscape and Grounds budget.

Wilson said that after the other tree fell, they looked at this one and decided to see if spring buds appeared. They checked it again in the beginning of February and found that one of the diseases, Hypoxylon Canker, had spread in 30 days.

Five years ago, Wilson's office tested the tree with a Resistograph, a tiny drill inserted in

different locations around the tree trunk. The purpose was to measure the density of live wood.

"It's sad."

Pam  
Medley

"At that time, there was a lot of live wood in the tree's core," Wilson said. Now she fears there is a cavity in the tree.

According to Wilson, the entire environment is stressed due to years of drought. Limbs have fallen off or had to be pruned. Diseases then invaded through the tree's open wounds.

Wilson said that once the tree is out, college officials look at dressing up the area along the wall of the building.

"We haven't decided whether or not to plant another tree," she said. "But we probably will, maybe another oak."

## Fredericksburg Forum To Return On Feb. 26 With Director Ken Burns

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examine race in America historically," Shifflet said. "The films that I have seen have a common theme in them. They trace black history objectively and at the same time examine the problems in our past."

The Fredericksburg Forum, currently in its seventh season, was originally developed by President William Anderson. It is modeled after the Richmond Forum, which has been noted as one of the best public forums in the United States.

"The purpose of the Fredericksburg Forum is to promote interaction between the city of

Fredericksburg and Mary Washington College," Ashby said.

Over the years, The Fredericksburg Forum has brought nationally recognized speakers like Democratic Strategist James Carville and ABC News correspondent Judy Muller.

Ken Burns has been making documentary films for over 25 years. He has created The Civil War, which was the most highly rated television series on American Public Television. The film has received two Emmys, a People's Choice Award, two Grammys amongst many other awards.

## The Forum Information:

Who: Ken Burns  
Where: Dodd Auditorium  
When: Feb. 26

How much does Burns get: \$25K  
Where can I get tickets: You can't.  
It's sold out.

## Nation In Brief

By Lindsay Peyton

### Even Jesus Needs a License in Missouri

GAINESVILLE, Mo.—Richard John Adams, who is accused of tampering with a judge, says that lawyers are devils and only Jesus Christ will do as his representation in court. Ozark County Circuit Judge John Moody says that's fine with him but unless Jesus has a license to practice law in Missouri he'll have to keep quiet, reported the Associated Press. Adams says that the Missouri Bar Association "created the Federal Reserve through their unconstitutional statutes and case laws." His choice for co-counsel is "Christian brother" Lee Constance, who is also not licensed to practice law in Missouri. Adams rejected an offer from the judge to sign a waiver of counsel, saying that he objects to the language in the document. Adams plans to appeal the decision to keep Jesus from representing him. He faces up to 14 years in prison if he is convicted on both counts of tampering leveled against him.

### Robber Brandishes Banana, Gets Caught

LYNCHBURG—Patrick Jason Mann, 29, walked into a 7-Eleven without a weapon with the intention of robbing it. His solution, reported the Associated Press, was to take a banana off the counter and stuff it into his pocket. He then proceeded to hold up the cashier. He escaped with \$10 but was apprehended by police shortly after. He says that he needs the money to feed his cocaine addiction which is costing him \$300 a day. "There really wasn't much logic to what I did," Mann says. "When you're in the grip of that drug it doesn't make you a very rational person." Mann will spend 18 months in prison, pay back the money he stole from the 7-Eleven and another store he robbed, undergo 18 months of supervised probation and get substance abuse treatment.

### Slow and Steady Protects the Race

NISSWA, Minn.—The Chamber of Commerce is fighting legislation passed last year that puts the future of Nisswa's largest tourist attraction in jeopardy. The 39-year old tradition of turtle racing draws about 1,200 people per race day, which is every Wednesday during the summer, reported the Associated Press. Vendors provide racing turtles for 400-600 tourists and local residents. Kathy Newton, marketing director, says that turtle vendors told her the Department of Natural Resources will no longer give out licenses to rent or sell turtles and that a 1986 law requires the license. Rich Baker who works in the Department of Natural Resources Division of Ecological Services says that there's no law specifically prohibiting turtle races and that people can still obtain the turtles from the wild if they have a fishing license.

### Tequila Spill Has Firefighters Scrambling For Water

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—A worker unloading over 1,000 gallons of tequila into an already full storage tank at a distillery accidentally dumped it all in the local Kentucky sewer system, leaving a big job for firefighters called to the scene, reported the Associated Press. The 80-proof liquor spilled out at 100 gallons per minute, said Phil Lynch, a spokesman for the Brown-Forman Distillery. When all was said and done 1,500-1,800 gallons of tequila were present in the city's sewer system. Fear of a raging fire caused by the high alcohol content had firefighters and sewer officials dumping water into the sewers to dilute the alcohol. "It was a simple case of human error," said Lynch.

### Free Socks Await Inconvenienced Airline Passengers

BLOUNTVILLE, Tenn.—Tri-Cities Regional Airport is trying to make up for the random shoe inspections they perform at security checks. Passengers who have to take off their shoes are given athletic socks made by a local company, Bristol Products, reported the Associated Press. "We realize the random shoe checks are annoying," says Director of Marketing and Air Service Development Melissa Thomas. "While we can't do much to change the security process, we can let passengers know we appreciate them." Chuck Whitman, a Federal Transportation Security Administration official working at the airport, says that the idea of the new promotion is "to provide world-class security and world-class customer service." The socks come tagged and gift-wrapped.

## Students Support Saving Shelter But Fredericksburg Residents Dislike Location

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directors of the Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

However, some home and business owners do not wish to see the shelter built in this location. The Rising Sun community, which is approximately two blocks from 1900 Caroline St., has produced petitions with close to 200 signatures against the proposed site. There is anxiety in the Rising Sun community as to public safety of those who will live nearby the shelter.

"I think that most of the people in our neighborhood are not against the shelter," said George Grimsley, a member of the Rising Sun Homeowner's Association. "They are against the location. It is a bad piece of land to build on."

In addition, Grimsley doubts the overall effectiveness of the shelter.

"Building a shelter is not really going to solve the problem," Grimsley said. "They don't allow drunks or drug users, they have a time limit that each person can stay and then they tell you to leave. The shelter is not going to take [these people] in."

The reason that sites for the shelter are few in number is because the site must be located within Fredericksburg city limits.

"The shelter needs to be in the city where the jobs are," said SOS Coordinator Jim Staebler. "The people

must be able to walk to local services nearby because they don't have the luxury of a car."

"The Save Our Shelter coalition hopes to enlist the services of at least 50 students for a literature drop around the City of Fredericksburg."

Juliette  
Gomez

In an effort to reach some sort of an agreement, a focus group was formed. The group consists of several home and business owners, executive members of the shelter and members of the City Council.

"The focus group is vigorously looking for another place to build," Grimsley said.

Rev. Erin Sharp of the Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church and the shelter committee was not as hopeful about the focus group.

"They really just don't want us," Sharp said. "We don't think it is going anywhere."

Currently, the shelter has applied for a Special Use Permit from the Planning Commission for the City of Fredericksburg. After this, the City Council will have to approve the site.

The shelter has been looking for a new site for over three and a half years now. This is essentially the last option for a new shelter in Fredericksburg. At its current location on Essex Street the shelter has received another extension until midsummer, at which point it will be demolished to make room for upscale apartments, small shops and offices.

The Bullet is now online! Check it out!  
<http://thebulletonline.com>

# Viewpoints

your opinions

## Editorial

### Stop The Madness!

The glut of student groups soliciting in Woodard seemingly has reached a new high, and enough is enough! Groups are there selling tickets, donuts, giving out chastity material, recruiting for the military and just trying lots of different ways to get money. For your average student, this is just a tad overwhelming.

Every day, in order to simply go to the Eagle's Nest or get mail from the Post Office, we students must brave the gauntlet that is the Woodard bazaar. Is there no cap on the number of groups that sit there? Time and time again, we have to walk through that area without making eye contact for fear we may get harassed or worse—talked into something!

Going to get one's lunch shouldn't be turned into a guilt trip when groups are all over the place. As such, we propose that if people want to harass students in Woodard, they should have to pay a fee to rent one of the tables. While one could argue that this only allows the richer groups to have tables, those people are just going to have to deal with it.

If there is a cause that needs to be espoused, those students could easily do it the old fashioned way—by inundating us with flyers at Seacobeck and the Eagle's Nest.

### Meditating In Trinkle

With the semiofficial opening of the Asian Studies Center comes yet another attempt on the College's part to expand its outstanding commitment to academia. Touchingly, administrators, members of the faculty, and Board of Visitors members met on Feb. 7 to break in the peaceful ambience of the room and meditate. From our Chief Financial Officer Rick Hurley (pictured on the back page) trying to flush out the constant barrage of budget cuts, yet beaming with delight with the emergence of the new center, to Associate Professors David Ambuel and Mehdi Aminrazavi wondering if they fulfilled Professor Emeritus Kurt Leidecker's dream of one day having a permanent Asian Studies program at the college, the room was indeed christened with high hopes for the five-year program that just found a cozy home nestled in the bottom of Trinkle Hall. We at *The Bulletin* feel programs like the Leidecker Center will hopefully bring enlightenment to the college as a whole, allowing ourselves to grow spiritually with each other.

## the Bulletin

www.thebulletonline.com

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## FAST FACT:

The national average bra size in the United Kingdom is 36C.



LYSSA N. FERGUSON  
Guest Columnist

Just because you're wearing a skirt does not make you a drag queen, let alone drag show worthy. Don't get me wrong; I had a great time at the drag show seeing so many returning faces and my personal favorite, Juniper. The returning Drag Queens and Kings did a great job working the crowd, and our Masters of Ceremonies entertained us with their banter and hit-or-miss jokes.

But then (cue anti-climatic music) something terrible happened. We dispersed for an intermission, and we were told that when we came back, the amateur competition would begin. I apparently did not receive the secret messages disguised here in "amateur," which should have prompted me to leave the Underground, which so, I stayed to see what MWC had to offer.

Two of the acts were promising—clearly amateurs a bit intimidated by nerves, but still put forth the effort to leave their personality behind and launch into drag glory. I only hope to see them next year. Intrigued by what I had seen, I felt compelled to stay—big mistake. It was here that images were burned onto my retinas and will haunt me for the rest of my life.

It was in two disastrous acts that the mockery of the drag show began. In place of rehearsing and making half an attempt to win over the crowd and collect the prize money, they felt flashing the audience (repeatedly) would win them first place. THIRD ANNUAL gentlemen; the kids here at Mary Washington College know their drag show stuff.

These "contestants" gave up all to soon on actually performing. They dragged their friends on stage (who I'm positive dared them to the drag show) and "danced" provocatively with them.

But wait, there's more (and you thought it couldn't get any worse).

## This Show D

It began with the coy flashing of the thigh-clad derrière—which I laughed at, the first time. If you saw this poster you would have laughed too. By the end of the show, one misinformed contestant though the funny flashing was a good idea. He felt it was necessary to shake his "thang" relentlessly at the crowd. It was here I saw ass-flab do something I didn't even think ass-flab was capable of.

Unable to fully enjoy a bare-bum being shaken in my general direction I fled the stage area and retreated to safer grounds. Yeah, I turned around to shield my eyes from the atrocity which was "the second half of the drag show," felt more like a fraternity hazing prank, but that's just me.

These misguided contestants thought that "shaking their money maker" would be a good way to sweep the competition; they were sadly mistaken. Perhaps they mistook MWC's drag show for MTV's Jackass. Here are some tips for next year's boys.

1. Shave. Who knows, you just may like it.  
2. Use make-up. Most girls don't look good without it, why do you think you do?

3. DO NOT under any circumstance take off your shoes (Big drag faux pas).

4. Lose the ski cap. You may think you are Enrique Iglesias, but we wanted you to turn off the light.

5. Learn the lyrics to your song. Entertain, don't make a fool of yourself.

6. Tuck. I understand your bulge may be small to begin with, but humor us. Again, drag queen, not boy in girls' clothing.

7. Be your alternate personality. You are no longer Joe Smith, drunken college student. You are Priscilla, Queen of the Underground.

8. Classy Drag Queen - teasing thought its drag straps peering up from under your outfit.

Trashy Drag Queen - showing off your thigh-clad pasty white rump.

9. Don't dance like a dumb straight white boy. Just listen to the ever-knowing Missy Elliot and "put you thang down, flip it and reverse it," NOT "turn around, raise your skirt and shake it."

10. Check your boobs. Consult the girl whose bra you borrowed before strutting your mishapen uneven boobs before hundreds.

11. If you have time between your friends double-daring you and planning what you'll do with the prize money (no doubt a case of planning what you'll do with the prize money).

Natty, PRACTICE.

Follow these simple examples next year and maybe you'll earn some tips. And if you spare the crowd your gluteus maximus, maybe, just maybe, you'll walk away with the prize money. I think my point is clearly illustrated in "To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything" saying "you're not a drag queen, you're just a boy in a dress."

Please don't this article is to in any way criticize the drag show. The Drag Show is the pinnacle of my year. I realize how much work PRISM puts into the

production of this yearly event, and thank them graciously for that. And I'm glad this year they have extended an invitation to campus to participate, and had such a turn out with the amateurs. I was overjoyed seeing the returning talents of Juniper, Pepe, Cucumbar, and Xaiver. I look forward to seeing them next year, and will be deeply saddened if they do not return.

Lyssa N. Ferguson is a sophomore.

## Letters to the Editor

### Don't Go Towards The Light

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to your article in last week's *Bullet* ("Goolrick's Facilities Inadequate," Feb. 6) as well as by the urging of several of the contractors on the gymnasium job. My father, Byron Shankle, is the steel contractor for the gym. My father and his subcontractor came up to the job-site last week and on a short trip out for some real food, we discussed the job in length. I was told that they are hopefully going to be able to start erection of the steel within the next two weeks or so, depending on the weather.

However, this presents a major hazard for the campus that cannot be avoided or ignored. Because the job-site is on a lower elevation than all the surrounding buildings and walkways, there is no way to put up a fence around the site protecting the public from the welding that will be going on. My father and his subcontractor asked that I help make the campus community aware of this danger.

When the steel begins to come up at the new gym site, they will be using what is called arc welding. It produces a bright white arc of light, which will be magnified because the material they are working with is reflective. Because of this, the welders are required to wear special protective lenses on the job. However, if a

person were to look at the welding with the naked eye—even from several hundred feet—they would receive what is called flash burn.

"This is similar to the back of your eye being sunburned," said Skip Crobath, the welding and erection subcontractor. "Just like a sunburn, you don't feel it until later, in this case at about 3 a.m. At that time you will start to feel like you have sand in the back of your eyes, and you'll start to lose a lot of your night vision capabilities. Even a short, unprotected glance at the light can cause a pretty severe burn in the back of your eye. Prolonged exposure can even cause permanent blindness."

Here's the warning that I was asked to give: If you live on the north end of campus, like I do, or if you have classes at Goolrick or Jepson, or you are at the library, DO NOT LOOK AT THE WELDING. I do not know how strong I can make this warning. Believe me, you WILL go blind. I have known several ex-welders who are completely or almost completely blind because of this.

Will the gym be finished any time soon? I don't know the answer to that question. I myself cannot wait for a better equipped fitness facility, but I do know this: The steel will be going up sometime hopefully in February and unless you like the idea of going blind, I suggest that you NOT make this a spectator site. I know that we've all been transfixed by what has been happening there this year, but it's just plain dumb to look at the welding.

Brittany Shankle is a freshman.

### Bullet Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them. If there are numerous letters on one subject, a sampling of the best letters will be selected.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and submitted the Monday before publication. All letters and columns are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words. The *Bullet* reserves the right to withhold libelous material.

The *Bullet* does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, age or sexual orientation.

The *Bullet* will not publish anonymous letters or columns. All letters must be signed, and a phone number and address must be included to facilitate verification of authorship of the letter. Letters and columns can be mailed to The *Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our email address at [bullet@mw.edu](mailto:bullet@mw.edu).

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The *Bullet* staff. The staff editorial represents the opinions of The *Bullet* editorial board and not necessarily those of the college, student body or entire *Bullet* staff.



# Features

extras about people and places

## Fast Fact:

The Italian city of Verona, where Shakespeare's lovers Romeo and Juliet lived, receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet every Valentine's Day.

## thumbs



to censorship of the Spirit Rock.



to Q and Not U playing at the Underground on Sunday.



to not having a date on Valentine's Day.



to less than one month until Spring Break.



to not having enough gambling tables at Casino Night.



to the BSA donating proceeds to the homeless shelter.

## in the stars

**Aries** - Once you're that far behind, there's really no way to get caught up. You might as well do something fun.

**Taurus** - Stop slouching, and sit up straight!

**Gemini** - You've been yodelling in your sleep again. Is it any wonder that you've been having trouble with your romantic relationships?

**Cancer** - If you act now, you could be the first on your block to have an actual moat and a working drawbridge.

**Leo** - Bad day to call someone a "whiney gen-x cybercowboy." Tomorrow's better for that one.

**Virgo** - Today you will throw your back out. Not only will that really hurt, but the trash guys will get really surly when you ask for it back.

**Libra** - You will find that everything is better with the addition of either chocolate or garlic (but not both).

**Scorpio** - Good week to greet everyone with great enthusiasm. For example, "Bob! You're still alive!"

**Sagittarius** - Remember today: two wrongs don't make a right. But three do.

**Capricorn** - Excellent day to pretend to have various infirmities. Pretending to have a hunchback is a good one, and it is often favorably combined with a drooling problem.

**Aquarius** - Late in the day today you will notice that people seem to be staring at your nose.

**Pisces** - Resist the urge to break into song and dance today.

# Crimes Against Nature

## Professor Does Stand-Up



By **DARIELLE SMOLIAN**  
Staff Writer

On an illuminated stage in a darkened Dodd Auditorium, Professor of Psychology Christopher Kilmartin, explained to his audience how he stands here before us today, "the damaged individual" that he is as the result of an embarrassing incident in kindergarten when his mother dressed him as a girl for Halloween.

A roar of laughter emerged from the audience. This past Friday, Feb. 7 Kilmartin performed his masculinity awareness comedy act, "Crimes Against Nature." "Crimes Against Nature" is an amusing, informative production that explores conflicts of masculinity in society and how it is detrimental to men and an unnatural state.

"The ways that men are taught to behave is against their nature," Kilmartin explained. "Masculinity is the most unnatural thing in the world."

The material for "Crimes Against Nature" is the result of a year's worth of work and collaboration with Gregg Stull,

associate professor of Theatre at Mary Washington College. Kilmartin's skits are developed from real-life experiences that have shaped him and his masculinity.

According to Kilmartin, the purpose of this performance is to educate people about the fact that there is pressure on men to behave in certain ways and men do not know how to resist this pressure, sometimes in part because they cannot name it. Furthermore, conforming to pressures of masculinity can have very negative effects for men and their significant others.

In proceeding scenes, the audience witnessed Kilmartin as he imitated women posing in pornographic magazines. With puckered lips, bright eyes and crossed legs, he speculated that it is ridiculous how women are portrayed

in pornographic magazines: nude, yet with shoes on, and in strange, unnatural, contorted positions. This skit, which centered on Kilmartin's early discovery of "Playboy" magazine, is one of his favorites of his entire show.

Aside from humor, Kilmartin was also very effective at stressing the point that masculinity affects the actions of men in everything they do and how they act. In one example, the audience learned that "homophobia is the great disaster of men." This explains why two straight men who go to the movies together often sit far apart from each other, with Kilmartin referring to the space between them as the "safety zone."

Senior Troy Patrick said he enjoyed the show.

"I thought it was funny and unique in the sense that it really had a strong message underneath. I'd never thought about masculinity affecting so many things that [men] do."

**"Masculinity is the most unnatural thing in the world."**  
**Christopher Kilmartin**

Kilmartin in "Crimes Against Nature."



Peter Kelley/Bulletin

Kilmartin has been performing this act for almost five years now. He has done the show around 200 times and has toured nearly 100 college campuses, including Georgetown University, Vanderbilt University, and UCLA.

At all of these performances, Kilmartin has just one ritual he likes to do before he is about to begin the act: "I go to the bathroom," he said casually. The proceeds from the evening's event went to the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault (RCASA). Kilmartin chose to contribute to this group because he has

see **CRIMES**, page 5

# Looking for Love, Locally

By **CHRIS WILLIAMS**  
Staff Writer

There are hundreds of long-distance relationships going on at Mary Washington College. There are some guys dating girls from other schools, but mostly it is vice versa. The abundance of girls dating guys from other schools is staggering. The question we must ask ourselves is this, why? The obvious reason it would seem is the severe lack of men on this campus. However, I would like to pose a different answer to this question.

As a friend of mine once said, "The men here are like toys, I'm afraid I will break them. We need



Junior Erin Enzweiler.

Peter Kelley/Bulletin

football." This fact causes the girls to search out many men. Men who use power tools, who eat raw meat and smell like sweat. They start, what is known in the dating world as the long-distance relationship.

A long-distance relationship, in my mind, can be defined as any romantic liaison that spans a distance of more than 50 miles (83.4 km for our international students) and consists of more than "hooking up." Very often these relationships are caused by continued high school dating, but at Mary Washington College, that is not always the case. Two girls, sophomores Elizabeth Laclede and Stephanie Tanko, have started long-distance relationships since beginning school at Mary Washington College.

Quite often, these relationships can get nasty. When they begin they are all hearts, kisses, love and kittens (everything nice). However, long-distance relationships can turn to curses screamed over the phone very easily.

One student, junior and *The Buller* staff member, Brian Doyle commented on his former relationship.

"They can work if both parties are mature, but if one of the people is lazy, it sucks. It exacerbates any problems you may have. Date the sweet, hot local girl who is crazy about you instead," he said.

Sophomore Carolyn Myers, also suffered from a doomed long-distance relationship.

"It was harder to deal with our problems because of the huge distance between us," Myers said. She gave that relationship up.

But I do not want to discourage any students from getting involved with a relationship that spans over a distance. Although many people end up hating their boyfriend/girlfriend, there are many who are exceedingly happy.

Tanko says that she "is in love with her boyfriend" who is currently attending Eastern Connecticut State University. In fact, she loves him so much she is willing to spend 10 hours on a train on Feb. 13 and into the wee hours of Valentine's Day just to be with him.

Tanko is not the only happy story.

Junior Erin Enzweiler has been in a long-distance relationship with her boyfriend in South Bend, Indiana for what Erin calls

"two glorious years of love and romance."

When asked why her relationship has been so successful, Erin said, "We have put a lot of effort into making sure the distance doesn't hurt us like it so easily can."

There are many reasons for having successful long-distance relationships.

Kelly Timmerman, a sophomore who is dating someone from the University of Virginia says that the reason her relationship has been so great is because they are such great friends.

Elizabeth Laclede, the previously mentioned sophomore, is also involved in a very happy long-distance relationship with a gorgeous long-haired boy at Duke University.

see **LOVE**, page 5



# Realizing Racism Is A Reality New York Times Reporter Speaks Out

By STEPHANIE TWINING  
Staff Writer

Is racism a thing of the past? Not according to Lena Williams, senior writer at "The New York Times" and author of the book, "It's the Little Things: The Everyday Interactions That Anger, Annoy and Divide the Races."

She mentioned in her speech on Feb. 4 that the discrimination against African Americans before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 feels like yesterday.

"Anyone who thinks race is not significant, think again," Williams stated early in the program.

Although she admits that there has been much progress in the area of race integration, one example being the fact that she was invited to speak at the most homogeneous college in America, she also said, "there is still unfinished business between blacks and whites."

Williams was invited to speak at the college last week as part of the ninth Annual Cultural Awareness Series, a program designed by Director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center Ameeta Vashee. She started this program in 1993 to spread cultural awareness on campus.

"I wanted to think of a way to cooperatively work with the faculty to integrate cultural awareness with the curriculum," Vashee said. "By bringing in speakers that relate to the courses, it makes the interactions possible."

Williams spoke about the issue of race and how it affects communication between people of opposite races. She focused on typical stereotypes black people and white people have about each other, but she made it clear that discrimination affects everyone in the world even today. One personal story she shared with the audience was of her childhood and how she had always wished she were white.

"It's not easy being green," she remembers Kermit the Frog of Sesame Street saying. It surprised her as a child, that even a favorite television personality was uncomfortable in his own skin.

"Have you ever been one of them, those... they?" challenged Williams, who said that racial understanding is mutual. Everyone has been stereotyped as a certain type of person whether they are black, white, male, female, young or old, Williams said, using specific examples of modern assumptions about different groups.

Gabriela Castaneda, junior student aid for the Cultural Awareness Series, was asked to speak on the student panel during Williams' talk.

"I thought what she said was interesting, because she talked about blacks and whites, but I could still relate," she said, referring to her Honduran decent.

Castaneda, who has been involved with the diversity committee on campus since her freshman year, was happy with the turnout of students, educators and parents who came to listen to Williams. "People try to ignore [race], but it's good to talk in the open about it," she said.

The idea to invite Williams to talk at Mary Washington College came from alumni Angela Nagles, who had read her book and recommended her to the Cultural Awareness Series, according to Program Coordinator Belinda Collins. Williams has been visiting schools since the release of her book in 2000, and finds

that young people can easily relate to what she has to say about racism today.

Freshmen Helen Chong and Natalie Thompson, who found out about the talk through the Black Student Alliance (BSA), were so moved by Williams' words that they waited in line for an hour to get a



Lena Williams speaking.

Peter Kelley/Bullet

copy of "It's the Little Things" signed by its author. "She stressed a lot of important issues," Thompson said. "But making jokes about it made it good for a college environment."

Williams said that her goal in aiding cultural awareness programs in schools is to "get students to reach out beyond the university campus. We need to find a way to get students out into the real world to see what it's like."

Of course, the fact that Mary Washington College was named most homogeneous college in America could not be ignored. Williams was very pleasantly surprised with the audience she found here.

"It's nice to walk into a room and see every seat filled," she said.

As for the potential of tension due to the subject matter, Williams was impressed with the response she received here compared to other schools she has visited that are more diversified.

"This was a predominantly white audience and they took it in stride," Williams commented. "There were some places where they were supposed to be jolted and they were. Overall, the people here got it."



Peter Kelley/Bullet

Junior Brian Doyle.

## Close to the Heart

— LOVE, page 5

Even though these girls have stellar relationships with their men, it makes me wonder if there is anything that people with less than spectacular long-distance relationships can do to sustain one.

I implored self-proclaimed "Doctor of Love" Mark Graybeal.

"The lack of physical intimacy can develop into a serious problem in some long-distance relationships," he said. Make the time you spend with your 'lover' count."



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## Joking With Gender

— CRIMES, page 5

been involved with them for a while and additionally because they are "woefully under-funded. They need all the help they can get," he said.

Executive Director of the RCASA, Linda Hamrick, said she is appreciative of the approximately \$2,000 the performance raises. The money helps with telephone costs for the RCASA hotline. Funds are also used to support basic programs and general operating expenses.

Hamrick says she thinks that Kilmartin's "Crimes Against Nature" is educational for everyone.

"We see a lot of men who struggle with issues [like the ones discussed] and we hope that [the performance] helps to break some of the myths because it is humorous, making it easier to relate to," she said.

According to the RCASA brochure, the organization is a non-profit agency that provides free services for those who are victims of sexual assault

and their significant others. It also "seeks to raise public awareness on the issues surrounding sexual assault through special media events, information displays, and education programs for the community."

After the brief discussion on doubling words to emphasize meaning, which is not a masculine behavior and after learning that calling a man "sissy," a method by which to challenge a man's masculinity to get them to do anything, viewers became aware of the challenges that men face today.

Kilmartin wrapped up his performance a little over an hour later with an address to his late father and a summary of his current, successful life, despite his struggles with masculinity. As the lights went up, the sound of a lengthy applause was heard and an entertained and informed audience filed out of Dodd Auditorium, thinking that perhaps Kilmartin isn't such a "damaged individual" after all.

VOICES NO BODIES Vigil For Eating Disorder Awareness

## Eating Disorder:

Noun, 1984 E-tij[ng] ("di'-tor-d&r

1. any of psychological disorders characterized by serious disturbances of eating behavior.

2. A display of fear on many levels. The fear of experiencing happiness, fear of having emotions, The fear of being loved, and sometimes The fear of living

Anonymous

Saturday, April 26, 2003

4pm-9pm

National Mall, Washington, DC

Capitol Reflecting Pool, U.S. Capitol Grounds

sponsored by ANAD

(National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders)

visit our website:

<http://voicesnobodies.tripod.com>



## Valentine's Day Trivia



♥ Believing that birds began to mate on Feb. 14, people in the Middle Ages started the card tradition by sending love letters on that day.

♥ In the United States over 1 billion valentine cards are sent each year.

♥ New York City's Empire State Building is considered by many to be the most romantic place to be married.

♥ In the United States, 64 percent of men do not make plans in advance for a romantic Valentine's Day with their sweethearts.

♥ Parents get one out of every 5 valentines.

♥ Women buy 85 percent of all valentines.

# Sports

the latest athletic news and information

## Fast Fact:

In the United States, 64 percent of men do not make plans in advance for a romantic Valentine's Day with their sweethearts.

## schedule

### Baseball

Feb. 15: vs. Messiah College  
Feb. 19: vs. Christopher Newport U.

### Men's Basketball

Feb. 15: at Gallaudet University  
Feb. 19: at Goucher College

### Women's Basketball

Feb. 15: at Gallaudet University  
Feb. 17: vs. Washington & Lee University

### Swimming

Feb. 14-16: CAC Championships

## scores

### Men's Basketball

Feb. 5: Marymount University L 73-67  
Feb. 10: Villa Julie College W 70-68

### Women's Basketball

Feb. 5: Marymount University L 74-57  
Feb. 10: Villa Julie College W 82-39

## athlete of the week

### Jenn Olinger Basketball

**Freshman guard scored 13 points and helped lead her team to a crushing victory over Villa Julie College.**



Katy Valluzzo/Bullet

## Basketball Team Seeks Strong Finish

Only a handful of games remain until the Conference Championships begin on February 25 for the members of the Eagles squad, including, clockwise from left: seniors Cris Hairston and Brett Lively, junior Evan Fowler, freshman Ian Sumers, coach Rod Wood and freshman Kevin Moore.

## Makeshift Practices

By PAM KRAMER

Assistant Sports Editor

The Mary Washington College women's lacrosse team, tired of practicing inside, took measures into its own hands.

"Balls were flying everywhere in the gym," senior Beth Schminke said.

So the team headed to the snow covered field with buckets, tarps, an occasional shovel and a whole bunch of gloves.

After about an hour of grueling snow shoveling and an occasional snowball, about one corner of the field was left uncovered.

However, help was soon at hand as the men's lacrosse team trudged out to see what they could do.

"This is the dumbest thing I've ever seen," senior lacrosse player Jeb Boland said of the situation. It seemed others shared his sentiments.

"This should have been done a day after it snowed, not days later. A day late and a dollar short," senior Jamie Test said. "You've got to have a turf field if you plan on practicing in January and February."

This is just one of the crazy and creative ways the spring teams of MWC are coping with snowy fields during their pre-season training.

▼ see PRACTICE, page 7

## Meet The Player: Caitlin Wilkinson

By LIZ KELLER

Assistant Sports Editor

Halfway through last year's season, senior forward Caitlin Wilkinson tore the ACL in her knee, an injury that could have ended her college basketball career. But it didn't.

Although she graduated last May with a degree in psychology, Wilkinson decided to come back this year for one more season.

"The thought of not having the opportunity to play much after college really motivated me," she said. "The opportunity was there, so I wanted to take it."

Wilkinson had one more year of eligibility left because of the injury.

She is currently taking graduate level business classes at the James Monroe Center.

One of the team's leading scorers with 11.2 points per game, Wilkinson has

helped the Eagles improve this season.

Last year, the team went 5-20 with three wins in the Capital Athletic Conference. So far this season, the Eagles have won six games and still have six games left to play.

At 5'10", she is one of the taller players on the squad, but Wilkinson's height isn't necessarily her biggest asset to the team.

"Her experience makes her valuable," head coach Becky Timmins said. "She's our leader on the floor and carries a lot of weight on our team."

She's one person I'd go to in the end of the game if we needed a bucket."

Teammate Katie Anderson agreed.

"She is a huge leader and a vital part of our team," she said. "Everyone looks up to her, on and off the court. She is always there for us no matter what."

Averaging close to 26 minutes a game, Wilkinson has started in all but three of the 19 games played this year.

Her presence on the court has guided the team all season.

"She's determined and goal-oriented and pushes everyone around her," Timmins said.

Wilkinson, who scored a career-high 25 points in a win over Christopher Newport University early in

December, said her most memorable moments as a player have come in the last

two seasons at Mary Washington College.

"In some games last year and this year, when we're not having a winning season, we've pulled together to win," she said.

The Eagles most recent win came on Monday night—an 82-39 rout of Villa Julie College, in which Wilkinson scored 12 points.

As far as the rest of the season goes, Wilkinson hopes the team can continue to pick up the pace.

"I would like to go 6-0 in our last six games," she said. "We've started to pick up our level of play and I want to finish strong at the end of the season."



Courtesy of MWC Media Guide

Caitlin Wilkinson

## Opening Of Baseball Season Halted

By MARK TUBEN

Staff Writer

While last week's snow kept Mary Washington College students out of class on Friday, its effects have kept the baseball team off the field this week.

The first two games on the Eagles' schedule have been postponed, and now the eager players must wait and hope that their season will start this Saturday, Feb. 15 against Messiah College.

The two games, scheduled for Feb. 9 against Columbia Union College and Feb. 11 against Southern Virginia College will be rescheduled, according to head coach Tom Sheridan.

Sheridan added that he did not know

when the team would get its season underway.

Freshman infielder Terrence Smith is awaiting the start of his college career, but said that he recognizes that even veteran players have grown tired of the wait.

"I think I can speak for the team when

I say that we are all ready to get going," Smith said.

The Eagles are looking forward to the opportunity to finish what they started last season, one in which they went 27-10 overall and 7-3 in the Capital Athletic

Conference, but felt they did not play their best at the end of the year, especially in the conference tournament.

"We stumbled late in the year," junior and Buller staff member Cory Templeman said. He was confident the team could recover this season, in part due to

experience.

"We have our entire outfield returning and the same defense is back," he said.

For senior catcher Max Seaman, specific disappointments from last season are a source of motivation.

"I can't wait to play York again,"

Seaman said. "We didn't play our best against them last year. This year we've got to get things done."

Seaman also wants to make sure that the team doesn't get off on a bad foot because of the snow.

"With spring break rolling around, I would like to get a couple of games under our belt," Seaman said.

The team's new faces this year include several promising freshmen as well as first baseman Jon Hurd, who has joined the team after transferring from

Christopher Newport University in order to play two sports at MWC.

He will join the baseball team once the Eagles basketball season is completed.

Freshman Brandon Cole is a new face on the team who is looking forward to

playing this season after working to earn the opportunity.

"Coming here from the start I was just trying to make the team," Cole said. "As [the year] progressed, it started to look like I was going

to get playing time and pitch and that made me want to work even harder. I'm looking forward to seeing what college baseball is like."

▼ see BASEBALL, page 7

**"I think I can speak for the team when I say that we are all ready to get going."**

Terrence Smith

**"With spring break rolling around, I would like to get a couple of games under our belt."**

Max Seaman





# Scene

your guide to entertainment

## coming attractions

### ▼ Saturday, Feb. 15

*Victorian Valentine's Ball, hosted by the Historic Preservation Club. Lee Hall Ballroom. Lessons from 10 a.m. - noon, Ball from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Lessons are free, Ball is \$20 each/ \$30 per couple.*

### ▼ Tuesday, Feb. 18

*"Enlightenment Guaranteed." (German movie with English subtitles). Dodd Auditorium in George Washington Hall, 7:15 p.m. Free.*

### ▼ Wednesday, Feb. 19

*Disney's "Song of the South." Lecture by Gardner Campbell, associate professor of English at MWC. Combs Hall, room 237, 7 p.m. Free.*

## top ten movies

1. How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
2. Shanghai Knights
3. Chicago
4. The Recruit
5. Final Destination 2
6. Deliver Us from Eva
7. Kangaroo Jack
8. Biker Boyz
9. Darkness Falls
10. The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

Opening This Weekend...

"Daredevil" with Ben Affleck, "Gerry" with Casey Affleck and Matt Damon, "The Jungle Book 2" with the voices of John Goodman and Haley Joel Osment

source: www.imdb.com

## Quote of the Week

"And in the morning, I'm makin' waffles!"

-Donkey, "Shrek"

# Queen For A Day

## Amateur Drag Queens Strut Their Stuff At Third Annual Drag Show

By ELIZA DOENGES

Staff Writer

Sequins, thongs and wigs, oh my! The Mary Washington College Underground was a glittering spectacle of tinsel and strobe lights Friday night as amateur drag queens strutted their stuff across a makeshift runway, and helped to make the third annual PRISM Drag Show a success.

"The drag show was conceived two years ago and was created to simply add variety and fun to the campus' events," said sophomore Phil Hooper, Protecting the Rights of Individuals of Sexual Minorities (PRISM) community outreach coordinator.

In past years, professional drag queens have been hired from Richmond clubs to perform. However lack of fund restricted PRISM from bringing in outside performers.

"We could only use a limited amount of our yearly budget for the drag show, and professional drag queens do not come cheap," Hooper said. "Therefore, since many people had requested more amateur performers, we decided to make that the focus for this year."

The night began with a rousing rendition of Betty Everett's "The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)," by Mary Washington College alumni and former PRISM member, Mark Thaden, also known as "Cucumber Dip." Thaden shared MC duties with MWC junior Ryan Winfield, PRISM Vice President.

The first half of the show was dedicated to amateur drag queens, including the return of "Miss Juniper," sophomore Phil Seidman, who was undoubtedly the crowd's favorite. Seidman's performance consisted of "Welcome to my Party" from the musical "The Wild Party" and an encore of "Gimme Gimme Gimme (A Man After Midnight)," an A\*Teens cover of an ABBA song. Seidman, clad in a black spandex pantsuit and a black Betty Page wig, seemed rather comfortable in his cross gender attire.

"I saw it in a store downtown and I was like that's it! I have to have it! That's mine!" Seidman said.



Sophomore Phil Seidman, as "Miss Juniper," waves off money offered to him as he performs at the third annual PRISM Drag Show.

As "Miss Juniper," Seidman was definitely a convincing female impersonator.

"I used duct tape to keep stuff down," Seidman said. "I'm pretty comfortable with myself. Also, playing a character makes it a lot easier, because it is almost like it isn't you up there wearing some suggestive outfit, it is someone else."

"Juniper was hotter than most guys... I mean, girls I've ever seen," said Will Randolph. Randolph said that he goes to the Drag Show each year with his girlfriend to cheer on his friends who performed rap songs.

The other two performers in the first half of the show were Longwood graduate Lanie Pepitone as "Pepe" and former MWC student Jess Brady as "Xavier Morcox." Pepitone and Brady both performed rap songs.

Brady's energized interpretation of Eminem's "Without Me" got the crowd clapping and dancing along.

"This is my third Drag Show," campus police Sergeant Sharon Mills said. "It proved to be a very nice crowd."

The second half of the show consisted of four Mary Washington College students competing for prize money.

First place and \$300, went to freshman Steven Briel as "Veronica," who performed the Divinyl hit "I Touch Myself," wearing vinyl shorts, a red tank top, and a blond wig.

Second place and \$200 was awarded to freshman Dick Gronskie as "Paulina Cole." Gronskie danced in a mini skirt with matching thong, to Britney Spears' "I'm a Slave 4 U."

"The thong... I'm not really sure where it came from," said Gronskie. "Some girl left it on my bed."

Freshman Amanda Neyenhouse won \$100 for third place as "Big E. Johnson" with Gloria Gaynor's classic "I Will Survive."

Fourth place and \$50 went to Paul Bristow as "Ronnie," performing Madonna's "Like a Prayer." Bristow's routine was exceedingly energetic as he went on to throw Mardi Gras beads into the crowd and finished his routine with infamous 80s "worm" move.

"I don't think [my parents] would be too happy about this," Bristow said. "Military background, you know."

Winners were selected through crowd approval.

"My favorite was Paulina Cole," junior Jessica Rich said, "He had some good moves, and a better butt shake than the other guys. I don't know about those hiking boots though. I think they may have lost him the competition."

The prize money was available thanks to a \$1000 grant from Office of Student Activities and Community Service (OSACS) and from Mary Washington College's general activity fund. The total cost of the show was approximately \$1,200, which paid for the prize money, decorations, refreshments for the performers, and other supplies.

"The show took a long time to plan," Phil Hooper said. "Chalee Madden and I had never done anything like this before, so we had a lot to figure out. We started well before winter break, and have been working on it constantly ever since."

"It was our first year doing PRISM and the drag show, so it has been an adventure. When it was over, I couldn't take the smile off of my face," said freshman PRISM member Chalee Madden.

Ginny Bach, a recent MWC grad summed up the drag show by saying, "Flamboyance at its best."



Freshman Steven Briel waits upstairs in Lee Hall before his first place performance as "Veronica" at the Drag Show.

# All Q-ed Up And Ready To Go

## DC Band Q and Not U Will Play Mary Washington on Sunday

By ADELE UPHAUS

Staff Writer

Mary Washington College: preppy, conservative...and full of avid punk rockers? Perhaps—or perhaps it's just the band Q and Not U working their all-inclusive brand of magic.

The Washington D.C. based punk band labors to create something special during their shows.

"We don't just want it to seem like we're playing in a vacuum," said drummer John Davis. "We try to make it seem like an exchange. It's about building a community."

Q and Not U are returning to the Mary Washington College Underground on Feb. 16 to play another show. According to Merideth Munoz, director of the Underground, their last show at Mary Washington College, in October of 2001, was wildly successful.

"I would say it was the most talked about show," said Munoz. "People constantly asked us if they were coming back."

The band formed during the summer of 1998, played their first show that November, and has been touring almost constantly since. The members, Harris Klahr on guitar, keyboard, and vocals, Chris Richards on guitar, bass and vocals, and Davis on drums, are all from the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C.



Q and Not U perform at Washington D.C.'s Black Cat last year.

Photo Courtesy photogeek.com

Davis said the band members grew up going to shows together, idolizing such D.C. punk giants as Fugazi and Minor Threat.

"We certainly developed out of the D.C. punk scene," Davis said. "These days, we're more into the rhythm thing mixed with punk. We really just want to get people moving."

Q and Not U's latest album, "Different Damage," released in 2001, includes a wide range of influences, mixing punk with Afro-beat, jazz, and funk elements. Davis said a huge influence on the album was Nigerian musician Fela Kuti, who he described as the father of Afro-beat music and who was popular in the 70's.

Their style of song writing is very inclusive and collaborative as well. Davis said songs usually develop out of practice when the band is jamming.

"We mess around, and one out of five songs will be cool, so we record it," he said.

The members listen to the recordings later and shape them into songs, adding vocals towards the end.

"Writing songs is very much a band process," said Davis.



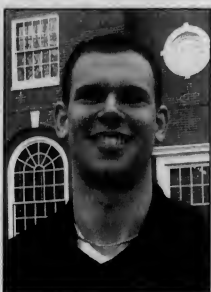
# What Is Your Favorite Place In Fredericksburg?

Photos And Interviews by Jackie Mancini



"Hyperion because of the atmosphere and the coffee."

- Lyssa Ferguson,  
junior



"Charles and Pitt. They've got the best people there on late Saturday nights and the best party atmosphere."

- Andrew Flynn,  
freshman



"The historical battlegrounds. It's a nice, peaceful place to go."

- Jojo Flores,  
sophomore



"Denny's, because if you go there at 2 a.m. you can hang out with all the freaks."

- Patricia Boyce,  
sophomore



"Chipotle, because it's yummy and cheap!"

- Mandy Cox, junior

## BSA To Host Talent Show, Help the Homeless

By JENNIFER BELL  
Staff Writer

Forge the fact that the Princeton Review labeled Mary Washington College the most homogeneous school in the nation; lack of diversity doesn't mean that there is a low rate of minority student involvement on campus. Take a look at the Black Student Association's annual Talent Show—in previous years, the BSA has received help from the Student Senate and the Student Government Association, but now they are taking on the task by themselves.

"This is the fourth year we have done the Talent Show and the second year we have hosted it on our own," said Ted Lewis, vice president of the BSA. "We are just that big now."

The 4th Annual Talent Show will be held on Thursday February 13th at 7:00 pm in Dodd Auditorium and will feature ten acts, with at least one Mary Washington College student in each act.

"Last year there was more diversity among the acts, with people dancing and doing other stuff," said BSA treasurer Emie Thompson. "This year it seems like the majority of the acts will be singing."

"We had a lot of people try out and most of them were doing singing," Lewis said. "The few that did do dance routines just didn't seem as prepared, like they lacked precision."

All of the acts will have to try out in front of four student judges, freshman Tamia Gilliard, sophomore Kiki Williams, junior Andrew Dawson, and senior Nate Myers, and one faculty judge, Lea Ziobro, the BSA sponsor. Each act will be graded on a point system, with \$500 going to the first place act, \$200 for the second place, \$100 for third place. Student comedian Donovan Cobbins, this year's variety act, will receive \$50. According to Lewis, this is the

first year they are offering money to the variety act, which performs during intermission but is not in the running for placement.

"This year's show will hopefully surpass the great precedent that has been set by previous years," said BSA president Ryan Butts. "I think that we have a talented bunch performing this year."

Tickets for the Talent Show will cost \$2, with the proceeds going to the Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

**"I think that we have a talented bunch performing this year"**

**Ryan Butts**

"Lea Ziobro told us that the top charity out there now was the homeless shelter," said Lewis. "We raised about \$150 dollars last year. This year we are hoping to double that for them."

The shelter may be closing down soon and many of the college's clubs and organizations have tried to help it by providing funds and volunteers.

"With the recent controversy surrounding the homeless shelter, we felt that this would be a good way to show our support," said Butts.

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- a non smoker or ex-smoker
- currently using non-steroid inhalers
- in general good health

*You may be eligible to participate in a Research Study of an Investigational Medication.*

**Qualified participants will receive study-related medication and all study related procedures are no cost.**

**For more information call (888) 301-6717.**

Study conducted by:  
Dr. Jeffrey Rehm.

Pulmonary Associates of  
Fredericksburg  
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Fredericksburg, VA 22401

## the Bullet

- Do you have a roommate who made your week?
- How about a pop quiz that totally destroyed you?

**Send in a personal thumb and tell The Bullet!**

Example: Thumbs up to the roommate who snuck dinner into the library for me!

Put your thumbs in the box at the Campus Center Info desk or send it to [bullet@mw.edu](mailto:bullet@mw.edu) subject line thumbs up/down.

## Bistro 309 Valentine's Day

Friday, February 14, 2003

\$50/couple

\*Three Course Dinner\*

Call for reservations 371-9999

# Scene

your guide to entertainment

## coming attractions

### ▼ Saturday, Feb. 15

*Victorian Valentine's Ball, hosted by the Historic Preservation Club.* Lee Hall Ballroom. Lessons from 10 a.m. - noon, Ball from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Lessons are free, Ball is \$20 each/ \$30 per couple.

### ▼ Tuesday, Feb. 18

*"Enlightenment Guaranteed." (German movie with English subtitles).* Dodd Auditorium in George Washington Hall, 7:15 p.m. Free.

### ▼ Wednesday, Feb. 19

*Disney's "Song of the South." Lecture by Gardner Campbell, associate professor of English at MWC.* Combs Hall, room 237, 7 p.m. Free.

## top ten movies

1. How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
2. Shanghai Knights
3. Chicago
4. The Recruit
5. Final Destination 2
6. Deliver Us from Eva
7. Kangaroo Jack
8. Biker Boyz
9. Darkness Falls
10. The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

Opening This Weekend...

"Daredevil" with Ben Affleck, "Gerry" with Casey Affleck and Matt Damon, "The Jungle Book 2" with the voices of John Goodman and Haley Joel Osment

source: www.imdb.com

## Quote of the Week

"And in the morning, I'm makin' waffles!"

-Donkey, "Shrek"

# Queen For A Day

## Amateur Drag Queens Strut Their Stuff At Third Annual Drag Show

By ELIZA DOENGES

Staff Writer

Squins, thongs and wigs, oh my! The Mary Washington College Underground was a glittering spectacle of finery and strobe lights Friday night as amateur drag queens strutted their stuff across a makeshift runway, and helped to make the third annual PRISM Drag Show a success.

"The drag show was conceived two years ago and was created to simply add variety and fun to the campus' events," said sophomore Phil Hooper, Protecting the Rights of Individuals of Sexual Minorities (PRISM) community outreach coordinator.

In past years, professional drag queens have been hired from Richmond clubs to perform. However lack of funds restricted PRISM from bringing in outside performers.

"We could only use a limited amount of our yearly budget for the drag show, and professional drag queens do not come cheap," Hooper said. "Therefore, since many people had requested more amateur performers, we decided to make that the focus for this year."

The night began with a rousing rendition of Betty Everett's "The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)," by Mary Washington College alumni and former PRISM member, Mark Thaden, also known as "Cucumber Dip." Thaden shared MC duties with MWC junior Ryan Winfield, PRISM Vice President.

The first half of the show was dedicated to amateur drag queens, including the return of "Miss Juniper," sophomore Phil Seidman, who was undoubtedly the crowd's favorite. Seidman's performance consisted of "Welcome to my Party" from the musical "The Wild Party" and an encore of "Gimme Gimme Gimme (A Man After Midnight)," an A\*Teens cover of an ABBA song. Seidman, clad in a black spandex pantsuit and a black Betty Page wig, seemed rather comfortable in his cross gender attire.

"I saw it in a store downtown and I was like that's it! I have to have it! That's mine!" Seidman said.



Sophomore Phil Seidman, as "Miss Juniper," waves off money offered to him as he performs at the third annual PRISM Drag Show.

As "Miss Juniper," Seidman was definitely a convincing female impersonator.

"I used duct tape to keep stuff down," Seidman said. "I'm pretty comfortable with myself. Also, playing a character makes it a lot easier, because it is almost like it isn't you there wearing some suggestive outfit, it is someone else."

"Juniper was hotter than most guys... I mean, girls I've ever seen," said Will Randolph. Randolph said that he goes to the Drag Show each year with his girlfriend to cheer on his friends who performed rap songs.

The other two performers in the first half of the show were Longwood graduate Lanie Pepitone as "Pepe" and former MWC student Jess Brady as "Xavier Morcoz." Pepitone and Brady both performed rap songs.

Brady's energized interpretation of Eminem's "Without Me" got the crowd clapping and dancing along.

"This is my third Drag Show," campus police Sergeant Sharon Mills said. "It proved to be a very nice crowd."

The second half of the show consisted of four Mary Washington College students competing for prize money.

First place and \$300, went to freshman Steven Briel as "Veronica," who performed the Divinyl hit "I Touch Myself," wearing vinyl shorts, a red tank top, and a blond wig.

Second place and \$200 was awarded to freshman Dick Gronski as "Paulina Cole." Gronski danced in a mini skirt with matching thong, to Britney Spears' "I'm a Slave 4 U."

"The thong... I'm not really sure where it came from," said Gronski. "Some girl left it on my bed."

Freshman Amanda Neyenhouse won \$100 for third place as "Big E. Johnson" with Gloria Gaynor's classic "I Will Survive."

Fourth place and \$50 went to Paul Bristow as "Ronnie," performing Madonna's "Like a Prayer." Bristow's routine was exceedingly energetic as he went on to throw Mardi Gras beads into the crowd and finished his routine with infamous 80s "worm" move.

"I don't think [my parents] would be too happy about this," Bristow said. "Military background, you know."

Winners were selected through crowd approval.

"My favorite was Paulina Cole," junior Jessica Rich said. "He had some good moves, and a better butt shake than the other guys. I don't know about those hiking boots though. I think they may have lost him the competition."

The prize money was available thanks to a \$1000 grant from Office of Student Activities and Community Service (OSACS) and from Mary Washington College's general activity fund. The total cost of the show was approximately \$1,200, which paid for the prize money, decorations, refreshments for the performers, and other supplies.

"The show took a long time to plan," Phil Hooper said. "Chalee Madden and I had never done anything like this before, so we had a lot to figure out. We started well before winter break, and have been working on it constantly ever since."

"It was our first year doing PRISM and the drag show, so it has been an adventure. When it was over, I couldn't take the smile off of my face," said freshman PRISM member Chalee Madden.

Ginny Bach, a recent MWC grad summed up the drag show by saying, "Flamboyance at its best."



Freshman Steven Briel waits upstairs in Lee Hall before his first place performance as "Veronica" at the Drag Show.

# All Q-ed Up And Ready To Go

## DC Band Q and Not U Will Play Mary Washington on Sunday

By ADELE UPHAUS

Staff Writer

Mary Washington College: preppy, conservative...and full of avid punk rockers? Perhaps—or perhaps it's just the band Q and Not U working their all-inclusive brand of magic.

The Washington D.C. based punk band labors to create something special during their shows.

"We don't just want it to seem like we're playing in a vacuum," said drummer John Davis. "We try to make it seem like an exchange. It's about building a community."

Q and Not U are returning to the Mary Washington College Underground on Feb. 16 to play another show. According to Meredith Munoz, director of the Underground, their last show at Mary Washington College, in October of 2001, was wildly successful.

"I would say it was the most talked about show," said Munoz. "People constantly asked us if they were coming back."

The band formed during the summer of 1998, played their first show that November, and has been touring almost constantly since. The members, Harris Klahr on guitar, keyboard, and vocals, Chris Richards on guitar, bass and vocals, and Davis on drums, are all from the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C.



Q and Not U perform at Washington D.C.'s Black Cat last year.

Photo Courtesy photogeeek.com

Davis said the band members grew up going to shows together, idolizing such D.C. punk giants as Fugazi and Minor Threat.

"We certainly developed out of the D.C. punk scene," Davis said. "These days, we're more into the rhythm thing mixed with punk. We really just want to get people moving."

Q and Not U's latest album, "Different Damage," released in 2001, includes a wide range of influences, mixing punk with Afro-beat, jazz, and funk elements. Davis said a huge influence on the album was Nigerian musician Fela Kuti, who he described as the father of Afro-beat music and who was popular in the 70's.

Their style of song writing is very inclusive and collaborative as well. Davis said songs usually develop out of practice when the band is jamming.

"We mess around, and one out of five songs will be cool, so we record it," he said.

The members listen to the recordings later and shape them into songs, adding vocals towards the end.

"Writing songs is very much a band process," said Davis.

# What Is Your Favorite Place In Fredericksburg?

Photos And Interviews by Jackie Mancini



"Hyperion because of the atmosphere and the coffee."

- Lyssa Ferguson,  
junior



"Charles and Pitt. They've got the best people there on late Saturday nights and the best party atmosphere."

- Andrew Flynn,  
freshman



"The historical battlegrounds. It's a nice, peaceful place to go."

- Jojo Flores,  
sophomore



"Denny's, because if you go there at 2 a.m. you can hang out with all the freaks."

- Patricia Boyce,  
sophomore



"Chipotle, because it's yummy and cheap!"

- Mandy Cox, junior

## BSA To Host Talent Show, Help the Homeless

By JENNIFER BELL  
Staff Writer

Forge the fact that the Princeton Review labeled Mary Washington College the most homogeneous school in the nation, lack of diversity doesn't mean that there is a low rate of minority student involvement on campus. Take a look at the Black Student Association's annual Talent Show—in previous years, the BSA has received help from the Student Senate and the Student Government Association, but now they are taking on the task by themselves.

"This is the fourth year we have done the Talent Show and the second year we have hosted it on our own," said Ted Lewis, vice president of the BSA. "We are just that big now."

The 4th Annual Talent Show will be held on Thursday February 13th at 7:00 pm in Dodd Auditorium and will feature ten acts, with at least one Mary Washington College student in each act.

"Last year there was more diversity among the acts, with people dancing and doing other stuff," said BSA treasurer Ernie Thompson. "This year it seems like the majority of the acts will be singing."

"We had a lot of people try out and most of them were doing singing," Lewis said. "The few that did do dance routines just didn't seem as prepared, like they lacked precision."

All of the acts will have to try out in front of four student judges, freshman Tamia Gilliard, sophomore Kiki Williams, junior Andrew Dawson, and senior Nate Myers, and one faculty judge, Lea Ziobro, the BSA sponsor. Each act will be graded on a point system, with \$500 going to the first place act, \$200 for the second place, \$100 for third place. Student comedian Donovan Cobbins, this year's variety act, will receive \$50. According to Lewis, this is the

first year they are offering money to the variety act, which performs during intermission but is not in the running for placement.

"This year's show will hopefully surpass the great precedent that has been set by previous years," said BSA president Ryan Butts. "I think that we have a talented bunch performing this year."

Tickets for the Talent Show will cost \$2, with the proceeds going to the Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

"Lea Ziobro told us that the top charity out there now was the homeless shelter," said Lewis. "We raised about \$150 dollars last year. This year we are hoping to double that for them."

The shelter may be closing down soon and many of the college's clubs and organizations have tried to help it by providing funds and volunteers.

"With the recent controversy surrounding the homeless shelter, we felt that this would be a good way to show our support," said Butts.

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Valentine's Day**

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\*Three Course Dinner\*

Call for reservations 371-9999

# Classifieds

## Band Documentary

If you are a fan of The Dismemberment Plan please contact Kerri at x 3517 or through this email address at khundolp@mw.edu

## Spring Break

Retreatmyrtlebeach.com. Spring Break/Grad Week. 1-800-645-3618. We have what you're looking for! As low as \$85 per person!

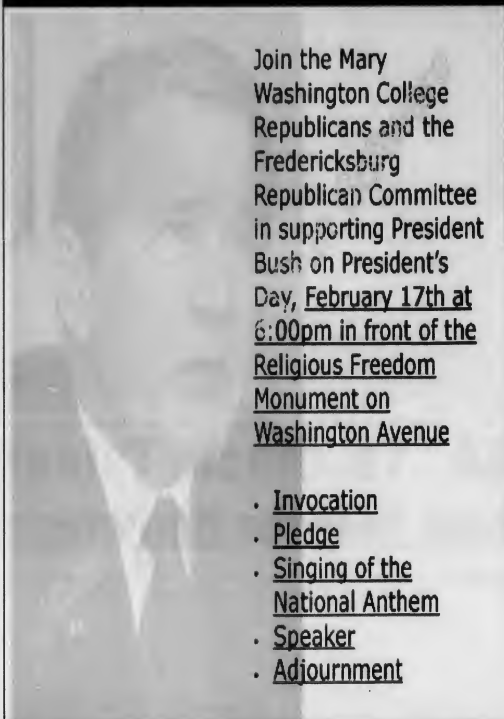
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## Summer Counselors/Leaders

Make a difference this summer while having the time of your life. Counselors and activity leaders needed to work at summer camps for children and adults with disabilities. Camps located near Richmond and Roanoke, Virginia. Camp season: early June - mid August. Visit our website at [www.va.easter-seals.org/Richmond](http://www.va.easter-seals.org/Richmond) or call (804) 633-9855.

Contact: Lindsey Riley, Managing Editor  
Phone: 540-654-1153; Fax: 540-654-1072; Email: [lrilezin@mw.edu](mailto:lrilezin@mw.edu)

# We Support Our President



Join the Mary Washington College Republicans and the Fredericksburg Republican Committee in supporting President Bush on President's Day, February 17th at 6:00pm in front of the Religious Freedom Monument on Washington Avenue

- Invocation
- Pledge
- Singing of the National Anthem
- Speaker
- Adjournment

**President's Day Rally - February 17, 2003**  
**Religious Freedom Monument**  
**Washington Avenue, Downtown Fredericksburg**



Pounce on the Moon Bounce  
Sumo Wrestle your Roomie  
Eat Free Cotton Candy and Popcorn  
Have a Caricature Drawn...  
All these FREE, awesome activities at the  
**Inflatable Extravaganza!**

Thursday, February 20th, 6-10pm

Great Hall

Free food (wings, quesadillas, mozzarella sticks), drinks and activities sponsored by MWC Student Senate

## **Up & Coming SGA Events**

- **CSA Bagel Breakfast**

Wednesday, February 19th  
8:30-10:30am, Tan Lounge

- **Powder Puff Football**

March 22nd, 10am-5pm

get your team together and call Susan at x 4218

## **Attention:**

Considering running for an SGA officer for the 2003/4 school year? You MUST attend a workshop either on February 13, 17, or 18 in meeting room 4, Woodard Campus Center at 4pm. Nominations will be held at the February 19th meeting of the Student Senate, in Monroe 104 at 4:30pm. These deadlines pertain to the following positions: SGA President, SGA Vice President, Honor Council President, JRB President, LAC Chairperson, AAC Chairperson, ARH Chairperson, CSA Chairperson, Student Media Council Chairperson

## **Get MOTIVATED!**

Motivational speaker Gary Tuerack has performed all over the United States - from Harvard and MIT to Cornell and BU - and now the 199 NACA Best Lecturer of the Year nominee is coming to Mary Wash!

Wednesday, February 19th, 7:30PM in the Great Hall.

Sponsored by ARH, Honor Council, & LAC

## **STP/Diversity Forum**

Get your questions about Mary Washington diversity and the STP Program answered by members of the faculty and staff regarding the STP Program and student diversity.

Monday, February 24th, 4pm

Lee Hall Ballroom



# Charging The U.S. With Genocide

**DANA LLOYD**  
Guest Columnist

Genocide: the very word induces a sense of terror and evil like no other, the state sanctioned removal of a people based on racial, ethnic, or religious grounds. What act can be more dastardly? To couch this evil in terms seeks to remove the memory of this mission of hate from our collective consciousness. We are taught about segregation in such sterile terms, terms that suggest the unequal treatment of a people.

However it is often omitted from our education that blacks were treated as unequal because they were thought to be inhuman.

It was a common sentiment that one might give more thought to putting down a good hunting dog than a [expletive]. This was not benign separation; this was deeply entrenched racism.

The claim is against the United States for its racist policies, which seeks and has sought to subjugate the entire population of color in this country and around the world.

The charge originated in a 1951 petition to the United Nations to investigate the claim of genocide against the "Negro people of the United States." And while the bulk of the

supplication was directed to establishing the charge against Black America, in the introduction to the second edition there was a strong indictment against racist policies affecting other people of color.

Let us be reminded of the legal definition as outlined in the U.N. Genocide Convention. "In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group: (a) Killing or causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (b) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."

The body of evidence is so voluminous that one is incapable of legitimately denying that the United States took such measures in dealing with persons of African descent.

And while there was never an official manifesto requiring the extermination of African Americans, we can not ignore that Congressmen made derogatory statements on the floor of the Senate without repercussion.

Police officers murdered black men for "looking at a house suspiciously," ordering a bottle of beer, or refusing to remove their hats quickly enough in the

presence of whites with impunity.

As much as we may like to believe that there was no conspiracy, it is just not true. The policy of the United States

government either through direct action or categorical inaction was to inflict upon African Americans conditions of life calculated to bring about destruction of the group.

It was the declaration of the United States Supreme Court that "the negro had no rights which the white man was bound to respect." Despite the 15th Amendment, blacks were steadily denied the right to vote either through state legislation or fear of death and violence. Blacks were then legislated into ghettos, robbed of sufficient income, miseducated and terrorized by state representatives of power.

Although the past atrocities committed by this government are hideously appalling our government still deals in genocide at home and abroad. Mr. Patterson submits "that racism USA is an export commodity breeding aggressive wars and threatening the peace of the world." He continues, "the 'crimes' of our foreign foes are that they want control of their own destinies and that their lands are rich with raw materials worth billions to the imperialists." American foreign policy is interested not in preventing injustice and making

the world safe for all people but in profit. As we are beginning to see, "domestic genocide develops into the larger genocide that is predatory war."

**"Despite the 15th Amendment, blacks were steadily denied the right to vote either through legislation or fear of death and violence."**

It is time that another generation of petitioners arises and demands an answer for these claims. African Americans were subject to over two hundred years of state sanctioned and often sponsored violence and oppression.

While we disguised as peace keepers and heroes of human rights the United States has consistently violated those same rights around the globe. Who protects the world from the unchecked power and will of the United States? We do: the citizens of these United States and the world! This is the principle of democracy. Elie Wiesel once said, "The opposite of hate is not love, but indifference."

So do something: become educated, fight injustice, be an active citizen, march, write, sing, sit, stand, run, vote! It is time for the sins of this nation to be accounted and apologized for. It is time that as citizens of a country with great potential to be a compassionate and just leader in the free world we wake from our deep slumber and demand exactly that.

Dana Lloyd is a senior.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Did you know griping is a common form of discourse in Israel? (Thanks LING 202!)**

**Help bring more multiculturalism to campus! Gripe to The Bulletin in letter form!**

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

**"It was common sentiment that one might give more thought to putting down a good hunting dog than a [expletive]."**

## The Weekly Wassup

*What to do... Where to go?!*

February 13, 2003

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Dr. Chris Foss reads Elizabeth Barrett Browning Combs 139 5 p.m.	Meditation Workshop Leidecker Center for Asian Studies Trinkle B39 4 p.m.	Daybreak 2-5 p.m. meets at Christ Lutheran Church	SPCA work 10:30 a.m. Monroe Circle	Polish Lessons Noon in the Writing Center	5 Alive Baptist Student Union 5 p.m.	Multicultural Fair meeting 4 p.m. Lee Hall 210
GEICO Open House 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call x1022 to sign up	MWC Ice Hockey Game MWC students skate for \$5 before the game 8-10 p.m.	7 p.m. - 8 Mile 10 p.m. - The Ring Dodd Auditorium \$1/movie	2 p.m. - The Ring 5 p.m. - 8 Mile Dodd Auditorium \$1/movie	Black Student Association 5 p.m. Meeting Room #4	Foreign Film Series: <u>Guaranteed Enlightenment</u> 7:15 p.m. Dodd Auditorium	
Seniors! Buy your regalia 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Bookstore	Seniors! Buy your regalia 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bookstore	Victorian Valentine's Ball 7-11 p.m. <a href="http://students.mw.edu/~hispclub">http://students.mw.edu/~hispclub</a> <a href="http://hispclub@mw.edu">hispclub@mw.edu</a>		Break Dancing Goolrick Studio 4 8:30 p.m. Free Lessons!	SGA Workshop Meeting Room #4 4 p.m.	
Classics Lounge CPR Lounge 6 p.m.				Jyoti Meditation Class 4-5 p.m. Trinkle B39		
				SGA Workshop Meeting Room #4 4 p.m.		





Photo Courtesy of John Bennett

Executive V.P. Rick Hurley, President William Anderson and others participate in a meditation in the new center.

## Asian Studies Center Opens Doors

By BRIDGET MURPHY  
Assistant Features Writer

Just inside the threshold are two door guardians from Thailand. The room that is devoid of furniture in the conventional sense is furnished instead with cushions from Thailand. At the far end of the wall a bronze Buddha dating back to the 14th century, a focal point in the room, oversees those who enter, remove their shoes and sit cross-legged on the mats. This exotic, peaceful scene provided by the new Leidecker Center for Asian Studies is not what one would expect to find in the basement of Mary Washington College's Trinkle Hall, room B39.

"Coming into the Leidecker Center was like entering into another world for awhile and absorbing its peace to bring back with us into our everyday lives," sophomore Camilla Ham said.

In the spring of 1998, Mary Washington College's Board of Visitors passed a bill proposed by Associate Professors of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion Mehdi Aminrazavi and David Ambuel to open the Leidecker Center for Asian Studies. The center was put on hold, due to a lack of location in which to place the cultural center. After Mary Washington College finished renovations in Combs Hall, the Historic Preservation department that was once located in the basement of Trinkle Hall was moved to Combs Hall. The newly vacated space in Trinkle was the opportunity Aminrazavi and Ambuel had been waiting for.

"From the beginning, we envisioned having a space for the center," Ambuel said. "This was the opportunity for us to do something."

On Friday Feb. 7, nearly five years after its proposal was passed by the Board of Visitors, the center was finally complete and set to open its doors only to again face a setback. Inclement weather forced the delay of the public opening for the center of Asian studies, but even snow did not stop Mary Washington College President William Anderson and the Board of Visitors from viewing the long-awaited center during a private opening ceremony on Feb. 7.

Mary Corbin, executive assistant to the president was in attendance during the ribbon-cutting ceremony that took place at 8 a.m.

"The timing I think is actually very good because with all this war-talk with Eastern nations, it's nice to see Asian culture and that we're not so different after all," Corbin said.

The beginnings of the Leidecker Center of Asian Studies dates back to 1991, with the passing of Professor Emeritus of Philosophy Kurt Leidecker who taught at Mary Washington College from 1948 until his retirement in 1973. Leidecker left his estate to Mary Washington College in order to establish a program for Asian Studies, which according to Ambuel, made the center possible. After Aminrazavi and Ambuel were named co-chairs of Asian Studies, they sought to bring the center into being through a proposal to the Board of Visitors.

"Here we were both named co-chairs of Asian Studies at a college with very little in the way of Asian Studies," Ambuel said.

The center, which would cost about \$5,000 to create, was approved in the spring of 1998 and funded entirely by the Leidecker estate.

"From that time there's been officially a center, but not in the physical sense," Ambuel said.

Though limited in size, the center supports many activities that further its goals of promoting academic and cultural exchange as well as increasing awareness of Asia and its place in the world.

"In the last five years, the center has sponsored almost 50 programs," Aminrazavi said.

Programs that have been sponsored include lecture series, workshops and conferences as well as funding groups related to Asian Studies.

The center is also offering a study abroad program in Thailand for the summer of 2003 led by Ambuel. Students in this program will be able to experience the culture first-hand as they visit important landmarks and historical sites of Thailand during the three week field tour.

Corbin, who was one of Leidecker's students when he taught at Mary Washington College, views the center not only as an addition to the academic program, but also as a tribute to a professor that had a great impact on her.

"For those of us who remember Dr. Leidecker, it was really poignant to honor him," she said.

When renovations to the college's Combs Hall allowed for the Historic Preservation Department to relocate from Trinkle Hall, Ambuel and Aminrazavi were able to acquire the space that Historic Preservation had previously occupied and bring the Leidecker for Asian Studies into a physical reality. Artwork and artifacts from Leidecker's collection, which he acquired through his travels, were briefly showcased in the college's Riederhof-Martin Gallery, but have since been put in storage.

Parts of the collection are now on display in cases in the center. The vast collection left by Leidecker cannot be displayed all at once, so Ambuel and Aminrazavi intend to rotate displays to include more of the collection. The origins of Leidecker's art collection ranges from locales such as India and Thailand, to Indonesia and Japan. The earliest piece displayed dates back to the 13th Century.

Along with the artwork on display, the center poses as a location to hold events sponsored by the Asian Studies program. Ambuel offers programs such as meditation classes in the center on Fridays. Meditation sessions are also held Mondays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., led by sophomore Camilla Ham who related the student response to the center.

"We really enjoyed the Leidecker Center and found it to be a peaceful, sacred atmosphere conducive to meditation and spiritual reflections," Ham said. "Several people commented on the room's beautiful surroundings and its objects of inspiration from far corners of the globe."

Positive responses came not only from students, but also from the Board of Visitors. Corbin recalls the enjoyment the Board of Visitors experienced when they first viewed the center.

"I think everyone was terribly excited," she said. "It is so different."



Photo Courtesy of John Bennett

Members of the college community in the new Asian Studies Center.

## College To Pay Millions To Update Obsolete Hardware, Software

By CONOR REILLY  
Staff Writer

Mary Washington College will have to spend approximately \$3.7 million to replace computer hardware and software because of an announcement by the manufacturer that it is obsolete.

The college's current central information systems, which runs services such as Eaglelink, Blackboard and email, as well as some departmental software, have been called obsolete by vendor Hewlett-Packard, or HP.

According to the vendor, obsolete means HP will no longer be able to service the system. It will not be making parts nor staffing technicians that have the knowledge of how to fix it. Instead of wasting resources on repairing an old system, HP will continue to develop new systems.

"HP's announcement means that we have to get a new hardware environment and get new software that will run on it as soon as possible," said Chip German, vice president for Information Technology. "There is no choice in this matter."

College officials said they will pay for the project by borrowing funds from the state and repaying the loan over time. This borrowing mechanism is called the State Treasury Master Lease Fund and functions in much the same way as a bank-lending program does for private citizens. Tuition and fees will not be raised to repay the debt. Instead, the college will use its three major budgets: Educational and General, Auxiliary, and Comp Fee.

In addition to Hewlett-Packard calling the system obsolete, administrators said there are other motivations for replacing the systems that are presently in place. Most of these fall under the college's "Best Bet initiative."

"Best Bet is a department-wide program designed to eliminate or streamline any inefficient processes at Mary Washington," said Rick Hurley, executive

vice president and chief financial officer said.

"A new and upgraded central information system would make many more things possible to do via the Web at any time and from anywhere, that eliminate mindless, paper-based bureaucracy that show changes in real time," German said.

This means that there would be a more efficient environment, enhancing communication between both departments and students and departments and other departments.

Virginia's Secretary of Technology is currently reviewing the plan. If the plan is approved, replacement would take at least two and a half years.

Then, the college will take steps to find a vendor for the new system. While talks have not yet been completed, SCT/ Banner, a computer manufacturer, is noted as a competitive candidate by the administration.

In addition to monetary concerns, college officials said there are other risks involved in implementing a project of this size. The college is talking with other Virginia colleges and universities that are undergoing similar procedures. The purpose is to reduce costs and learn from the experiences that those institutions have been through. Most notably, the college is talking with William and Mary and U.Va.

"We hope to have William and Mary help us as consultants so we might avoid costly errors and gain their help in guiding us through the process," Hurley said. "We are also talking with U.Va. as a possible host for the actual hardware. Their facilities are able to provide 24-hour coverage, seven days a week, whereas ours are not."

College officials say they are unsure if the can install an updated system within two and a half years.

"That is a fairly tight schedule for a project as big as this," German said. "I'm confident we can do it, mainly because of the remarkable combination of expertise and motivation I see in the people who have to make it happen here."

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